

SONS – MEXUS Meeting
January 23, 2004
San Diego, CA

Action Items

- Coordinate with US/Mexico Customs and Immigration (D11/ZN2)
- Identify Bilingual US/Mexico Liaisons
- Coordinate IDs & Funding Source for Liaison's Travel
- Draft Liaison Guidelines (Norma/Tim)
- Plan for Dispersant Workshop (3/04) D11
- Plan Mexico City Meeting after SONS (5/13-17)
- VIP List from Mexico to D11—NSFCC
- US VIP List (RSVP) to S3 (D11-Tim)
- Dispersant Trajectory Information to ZN2 (NOAA/D11)
- Identify Specific Equipment & Personnel to Deploy/ Test Cross Border Issues
- Identify Person(s) to Workout COMMS Plan
 - I. Use Existing Law Enforcement (LE) Plans (US/Mexico)?
 - II. Coordinate with SONS IT Team
- Identify Mexican SONS Coordinator
 - I. Get in touch with Lee Foresman
- Develop Mexico ICS Structure/ Identify Key Personnel

During the SONS project CDR Metruck, (CO MSO SD) and CDR McFarland (XO) will be in charge of the command post in San Diego.

Ltjg Adam Birst will be in the project officer

Lee Foresman will be the primary coordinator for SONS

** Nothing will be dropped at sea to simulate oil in the water. Per Lee there is computer software that will be able to project the movement of the oil while taking into consideration the weather and current conditions.

** All commands will have the soft ware information. Per Foresman they have already spoken to Z-2 and have set up a computer that will be able to follow as well what is going on.

** The soft ware will allow for the simulation of vessels deploying boom. It will take into effect the type of boom along with the type of oil, and will track how they will interact with one another, and how the recovery will work.

** Mexican Navy wanted to know if personnel and equipment would be actually deployed during the exercise.

Per Lee F. Real equipment , and personnel can be deployed real time they just need to let the exercise staff know.

Per CDR McFarland, the U.S. will be using a combination of both, simulation and the deployment of personnel and equipment. The personnel will not deploy boom in the ocean per say but it will respond with it.

Lee stated he and his staff will have a “truth” room. The room will be away from the exercise. The personnel in the “truth” room will keep track of all equipment and where it would be if it actually deployed. They will provide information to the players as to what is exactly happening.

The “truth” room will prevent players from making un-realistic assumptions.

** ADM Colubi expressed concern as to the importance of having both teams determine what equipment will be deployed and what will be simulated.

** CAPT OROSCO expressed concerns as to the importance of both simulated and the deployment of equipment is necessary to test the effectiveness of response and capabilities.

Lee: NOAA was used to create the trajectory models using weather and current conditions. They have created a trajectory of oil that has moved into Mexican waters for a period of 24 hours, The information was based on actual information collected throughout several years past. It is based on information provided by ships and weather information from the weather service.

** OROSCO – wants to establish points of contacts to establish communication i.e via telephone, faxes, and computers in order to communicate from one post/liaison to another.

The Pacific Strike Team will have their people in Ensenada to assist with communications and to assist with the tracking of the oil.

Per CDR McFarland – LTJG Birst has a written structure for the San Diego Command. LA also will also have one. Once all copies of command structures have been collected the information will be shared with the Mexican Navy.

Per Mexico, they would like to have liaisons stationed in areas where they consider critical. Finance is operated separate. They do not need the Finance section in their ICS structure.

We must review the Mexican ICS structure to properly identify a liaison for the proper ICS section in order to be able to accommodate their needs for this exercise.

COACHES:

Jose from CONOCO is in contact with LT Hernandez, they are working in identifying the coaches from Venezuela.

Coaches are separate from the liaisons. They will be providing support to the command in Ensenada.

They have been invited to the ICS in Ensenada in February 24-26

We must identify the trainees to observe in San Diego, Los Angeles, and the NIC.

We need trainees to observe @ San Diego, Los Angeles and the NIC center. We want 4-5 response managers to train and observe while in San Diego and Los Angeles Unified Command.

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Cross border issues:

Share objectives with customs and immigration for both countries.

Create a list of personnel and equipment that may potentially cross the border.

VIP Lists:

LT Hernandez to create list for VIP's attending from Mexico. The VIP's that will be invited will be elected officials at a local, state and federal level, response agencies that will respond to oil spills, Elected officials that represent the coastal areas.

We would like to see that the local elected officials at least visit the local unified command.

Protocols will need to be developed by using a workshop.

Mexico stated they have a regulation for the use of dispersants. They will accept dispersants approved by the US EPA. LT Hernandez has submitted the information for dispersant COREXIT 9500, 9527 to the University scientists.

COREXIT 9500 and 9527 is not the only approved dispersant however, it is the most used. Dispersants not approved by the state can not be used.

Meeting to Mexico City May 13th –17th